Congressman J. Randy Forbes Fourth District of Virginia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Christine Shott (202) 225-6365

July 25, 2003



Forbes announces funding for Great Bridge Battlefield

Washington, DC – Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) announced today that the National Park Service has awarded a \$24,000 grant to Chesapeake's Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways Historic Foundation.

The Foundation will use the grant to conduct historic research and complete a cultural landscape inventory that will record surviving battlefield features.

"The Great Bridge Battlefield was the site of Virginia's first land battle of the Revolutionary War." Forbes continued, "I am so pleased that the Foundation will receive this funding to begin their research on how best to preserve this important historical landmark."

Forbes played an integral part in helping the Foundation receive this grant from the National Park Service (NPS). Speaking at the Foundation's banquet last year, Forbes promised to assist them in preserving and protecting the battlefield. Specifically, Forbes invited NPS representatives to tour the Great Bridge Battlefield site, and then followed up with a letter of support to NPS for the aforementioned grant.

Bill Cuthriell, Public Grants Coordinator for the Foundation, commented, "Congressman Forbes really helped us in getting this first major grant [for the battlefield], which has opened the door in starting the study of the Great Bridge Battlefield site."

"This site is an important part of our American and Virginia history. I will continue to work to preserve this historic site to commemorate those brave soldiers who gave their lives for our country," Forbes concluded.